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KENTUCKY COUNTRY HAM BREAKFAST & AUCTION FED THOUSANDS AND RAISED THOUSANDS

Louisville, KY (August 22, 2013) – The Kentucky Country Ham Breakfast and Auction kicked off its 50th anniversary with a full house of elected officials and invited guests at the Kentucky State Fair. Sponsored by Kentucky Farm Bureau, the breakfast and auction is one of the signature events of the Kentucky State Fair, and celebrates a proud tradition of showcasing superior-quality country hams.

The blue-ribbon winning ham was raised by Harper's Country Hams in Clinton, Ky. and weighed in at 13 pounds, 3 ounces. This is Harper's seventh year winning the Grand Champion ribbon. The Yum! Foundation paid \$350,000 for the country ham benefitting the Fund for the Arts. The ham is being donated to Dare to Care Food Bank.

The annual breakfast fed a sellout crowd of 1,600 people with more than 5,400 eggs, 400 gallons of milk, 30 gallons of sorghum, 20 gallons of honey and 450 pounds of country ham from Kentucky farmers. The festivities also included appearances by local and state officials and speeches by Kentucky Farm Bureau President Mark Haney, Governor Steve Beshear, U.S. Senators Mitch McConnell and Rand Paul, Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer and Kentucky Agriculture Commissioner James Comer.

Since its inception in 1964, the Kentucky Farm Bureau has helped raise more than \$6.85 million dollars for charity.

The 2013 Kentucky State Fair continues through August 25 at the Kentucky Exposition Center. For more information and continued updates on the 2013 Kentucky State Fair, visit the official website at www.kystatefair.org.

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The Kentucky State Fair is an 11-day celebration of the history, heritage and culture of the Bluegrass State. More than 600,000 attend America's largest indoor fair, which uses over 1.2 million square feet of contiguous exhibit space at the Kentucky Exposition Center. While its roots are in agriculture, the Kentucky State Fair has grown into a trade and public education exposition, as well as a major entertainment venue. The World's Championship Horse Show, held during the Fair, is the world's richest and most prestigious Saddlebred show. Attendees and exhibitors contribute over \$16.8 million annually in economic impact. The Kentucky State Fair & World's Championship Horse Show are owned and produced by the Kentucky State Fair Board, an agency of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet.